Discussion preparation for NPLCC S-TEK subcommittee meeting, June 13-14
What are / should be the objectives of the S-TEK strategy?
(Please review the following as background for our
9:45 – 10:30 am discussion on 6/13)

On the April 5th conference call, S-TEK members brainstormed and discussed what the goals or the objective of the S-TEK Strategy should be. The discussion started with a review of the list of NPLCC objectives (see p. 3) and how the objectives of the S-TEK strategy should ultimately relate to or implement these NPLCC objectives:

- The S-TEK Strategy is the mechanism for achieving NPLCC Goal #3 (Information priorities).
- Implementation of an S-TEK Strategy is intended to support primarily NPLCC Goals #1 (Support conservation and restoration), #2 (Unique role of the LCC), #4 (Use of information), #5 (Availability of information), and #6 (Coordination)
- Goals #5 (Availability of information), and #7 (Outreach) describe some of the factors that should be considered in establishing the S-TEK strategy and information priorities

Objectives for the S-TEK Strategy were defined by answering the question "What would a successful S-TEK Strategy achieve?" The overall goal was summarized as:

- A successful S-TEK strategy would maximize the ability of partners/constituents/stakeholders to make good conservation and sustainable resource management decisions under a changing climate (*NPLCC goal #1*). It would do so by providing "everything you need and nothing you don't, to better cope with climate change":
    - the right information (spatial or non-spatial data, TEK, case studies of adaptation action, etc.) at the right scale in the right way and at the right time, and
    - the tools, perspectives, and support needed to make appropriate use of the information.

The subcommittee also identified several lower-level or intermediate goals, which, when accomplished, will achieve the overall goal:

- *Identify* science and TEK information, tools, perspectives, and resources needed to support entities making conservation and sustainable resource management decisions throughout the NPLCC region, that are affected by climate change and related stressors (*related to NPLCC Goal #3*). This includes identifying all of the following:
    - What types of information are necessary? (i.e., what types of information will provide decision-makers with improved understanding of how climate change and their management decisions may affect the outcomes of interest to them and an ability to use that information)
    - At what scale and scope is the information needed? (e.g., Many decisions are "local" and may require detailed local-level information, yet the scope of the LCC is landscape-level so it is also important to look at how local information can be scaled up or made

relevant more broadly, and whether/how landscape-level information can be made relevant to decisions at a variety of scales)
    - When and in what form is the information needed? (explore how the various NPLCC partners make conservation and natural resource decisions, to better understand where in the decision process, and in what form(s), information is most useful)

- Determine what information gaps can be appropriately and adequately addressed by the NPLCC (related to NPLCC Goal #2). This includes:
    - Recognizing and communicating that uncertainty exists and will remain: resource managers will continue to have to make decisions without full knowledge of everything they care about
    - Evaluating how effectively the information gap can be addressed
        - By the NPLCC, given realistic consideration of the budget, charter, and goals of the NPLCC
        - By other entities with interests in supporting landscape-level conservation and sustainable resource management
    - Identifying how information to support local decisions might be scaled to regional issues or needs.

- Develop and provide the identified data, information, and knowledge to people making on the ground decisions in a way that they can make use of it effectively (*related to NPLCC goals #4 and #5*). The actual development of needed information and tools will occur through the implementation of the strategy: an implementation plan will be a critical component of the science strategy document that the STEK is developing.

- The development and implementation of the science strategy should help continue to build relationships among NPLCC partner agencies

Additional background: NPLCC Mission Statement and Goals (from the NPLCC Charter)

Mission Statement

The North Pacific Landscape Conservation Cooperative promotes development, coordination and dissemination of science to inform landscape level conservation and sustainable resource management in the face of a changing climate and related stressors.

NPLCC Goals

1. Maximize the ability of partners to make informed decisions with respect to conservation and sustainable resource management of priority natural and cultural resources subject to climate change and related large-scale stressors in the NPLCC region. *(Conservation and restoration)*

2. Identify and address trans-boundary landscape-level natural and cultural resource information needs that the LCC is uniquely qualified to address -- including the identification of opportunities for (and barriers to) landscape-level conservation/sustainable resource management. *(Unique role of LCC)*

3. Identify priorities for applied science and other information for conservation/sustainable resource management. Coordinate efforts with the relevant Climate Science Centers and other research entities to help inform research priorities. *(Information priorities)*

4. Promote identification, use, and sharing of science, traditional knowledge and other relevant information to support conservation/sustainable resource management, and adaptive management decisions. *(Use of information)*

5. Maximize the availability and accessibility of data and information about large-scale stressors and their impacts on natural and cultural resources, and about conservation/sustainable resource management approaches and effectiveness. *(Availability of information)*

6. Promote coordination and efficiency of efforts among resource managers and science entities that are addressing science, traditional knowledge and other relevant information to achieve landscape level conservation/sustainable resource management. *(Coordination)*

7. Promote awareness and understanding of NPLCC and its products for landscape-level conservation and the effects of climate change on ecosystems, resources, cultures, and economies. *(Outreach)*